The 47,000-acre Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility (NWSTF) Boardman remains a vital training range and its larger area of restricted airspace, military operations area, and military training routes are located amid open farmland just south of the Columbia River in Morrow County, Oregon.

This combination of land and airspace provides a strategically important venue for training with the EA-18G airborne electronic attack aircraft. With the airspace extending vertically from the ground up, it is the only viable training area available for naval aviators from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington, to conduct low altitude tactical training with these aircraft.

However, development of tall structures, particularly wind turbines and transmission lines, under the restricted airspace presents a significant threat to the safety and combat readiness of airborne electronic attack crews. Therefore, the Navy’s goal is to protect working farmlands and ranches adjacent to NWSTF Boardman and under the restricted airspace from development pressures while sustaining the low altitude tactical training mission.

Additionally, lands in this area are bisected by the Oregon Trail, a valuable historic and cultural resources, and support habitat for the Washington ground squirrel, a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. By providing habitat for the ground squirrel, the Navy alleviated on ground training conducted by the Oregon National Guard at NWSTF Boardman. Protecting existing agricultural land uses provides critical wildlife habitat, preserves significant cultural and historic resources, and protects the military training mission.

**Benefit Summary**

**Community**
- Preserves open space, agricultural land, and water rights
- Provides habitat for at-risk species
- Protects historic and cultural resources

**Military**
- Improves operational safety by reducing obstructions to low level flights and impacts to radar line of site
- Supports multiple Military Service(s) missions

**Key Partners**
- Northwest Rangeland Trust
- Trust for Public Lands
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Fast Facts**

- Acres Preserved: 12,334
- Transactions Conducted: 6
- Total Funds Expended: $16.2 million
- Project Status: In Progress

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For more information about the REPI Program and supportive DOD efforts, please visit repl.mil.